

Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, June 17, 1888, with transcript

Letter from Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell to Dr. Alexander Graham Bell. Angouleme Argentina, June 17th. 1888. My dear Alec:

Isn't it too dreadfully sad about the Emperor. I can't say how badly I feel. It does seem so hard that he should not have been allowed to live and rule his people as he wanted to. He struggled so bravely and worked so hard and now I suppose the new Emperor will just undo all his father's work. Poor Empress Victoria, it does seem so hard for her too, a woman in every way fitted for such a position as the wife and helpmeet of her husband and now to have to give away before the stupid daughter-in-law who has not even good temper to recommend her — These Germans with their low idea of woman's rights and position as the head of her husband's house needed just the lesson that Frederic and Victoria would have taught them.

Your telegram yesterday at Poitiers was delightful H — I am glad you are meeting with the success you so well deserve. I hope we will find letters in Bordeaux telling us about your first meeting. We expected to have gone straight on from Poitiers but stopped over here. I am glad it is a pleasant cheery little place perched on a high hill rendered precipitous on three sides by series of high ramparts H — Beautiful views from the top over a lovely smiling pleasant country —, upland and lowland — a pretty little stream meandering through. I want to go to Limoges tomorrow but don't know if we can. This is the most comfortable hotel we have been in since leaving Chartres — for the children as there is a pleasant shady large garden.

You said before we left that you were not such a fool as to suppose I would be satisfied to return in 6 weeks — Why we have been here just 3 now and it seems as if we had been here all summer. I 2 certainly expect to be ready to return in three weeks more — although

Library of Congress

we are having a good time and I like France and the French peasantry very much. But I don't like the absence of light at night and that causes me to close now — Goodnight,

Lovingly, Mabel.